

Historic, Archive Document

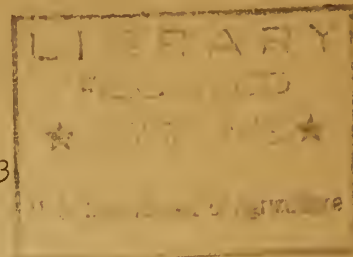
Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

M 33 C p 1

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
U.S. FOOD DISTRIBUTION ADMINISTRATION

and AMENDMENTS THROUGH FEBRUARY 15, 1943

(A summary for reference use)



Orders and dates	General provisions
Meat Restriction Order No. 1 Issued 10/1/42 Effective Same Date	Limits deliveries to civilians during periods, October 1, 1942-December 31, 1942, and January 1, 1943-March 31, 1943 by those who slaughter more than 500,000 pounds in a quarter to the following percentages of such deliveries in the same periods of 1941: beef, 80%; pork, 75%; lamb and mutton 95%; and veal, 100%. Limits other slaughterers to their 1941 deliveries.
	Lists conversion factors for obtaining dressed weights of carcasses.
Amendment 1 Issued 10/1/42 Effective Same Date	Corrects typographical errors in the order. Corrects data for registration of slaughterers to November 15, 1942 and clarifies meanings of terms.
Amendment 2 Issued 10/20/42 Effective Same Date	Directs slaughterers to list their <u>purchases</u> of meats from other slaughterers during 1941 and to notify sellers of the purchases claimed.
Amendment 3 Issued 11/9/42 Effective as of 11/7/42	Establishes quota periods by quarters, from October 1, 1942 to September 30, 1943, with their corresponding base periods in 1941. Modifies yield percentages to be used in computing the dressed weight of hogs.
Amendment 4 Issued 11/9/42 Effective as of 11/7/42	Reduces deliveries of beef for civilian use for the period, October 1, 1942-December 31, 1942 from 80 to 70 percent of the deliveries of the corresponding quarter of 1941.
Amendment 5 Issued 11/19/42	Provides for extension of time for filing a registration statement, if good cause is shown.

Orders and dates	General provisions
Amendment 6 Issued 12/7/42 Effective 12/12/42	: Requires non-quota slaughterers -- operators who : kill less than 500,000 pounds per quarter - mak- : ing exempt deliveries to obtain certifications of : delivery or other documentary proof, after De- : cember 12. :
Amendment 7 Issued 12/7/42 Effective 12/12/42	: Provides that deliveries to members of armed : forces being trained at colleges not be taken : from civilian meat quotas. :
Amendment 8 Issued 12/17/42 Effective Same Date	: Releases from five to ten million pounds of beef : which was in storage on October 1, as part of the : general civilian beef quota for the period, : October 1, 1942-December 31, 1942. :
Amendment 9 Issued 12/18/42 Effective Same Date	: Provides relief to local shortage situations : over holidays by authorizing deliveries of not : more than 10 percent of the new first quarter : quotas between December 20 and December 31, 1942. :
	: Limits deliveries to civilians during the first : quarter of 1943 to the following percentages of : the first quarter of 1941: Beef, pork, veal, 70 : percent each, lamb and mutton, 75 percent. :
Amendment 10 Issued 1/8/43 Effective 1/14/43	: Provides for the routing of controlled meat : supplies to quota-exempt purchasers through any : number of distributors. :
Amendment 11 Issued 1/18/43 Effective 1/23/43	: Revises some conversion factors and includes : factors to cover additional cuts. :
Amendment 12 Issued 1/27/43 Effective 2/2/43	: Removes restrictions on the amount of controlled : meat which Government operated asylums, orphan- : ages, prisons and hospitals may slaughter and : serve to patients or inmates.

OPA RESTRICTIONS ON MEAT - Oct. 1, 1942 Through Feb. 15, 1943

Between October 1, 1942 and February 15, 1943, the Office of Price Administration issued a restriction order on meat and 12 amendments to it. Purpose was to furnish sufficient meat for the armed forces and Lend-Lease.

Restriction Order No. 1, issued October 1, 1942, became effective immediately. It specified the quotas of beef, pork, veal, mutton and lamb that could be distributed for civilian use until September 30, 1943, inclusive. Four quota periods established were:

- Quota Period 1: October 1, 1942 to December 31, 1942
- Quota Period 2: January 1, 1943 to March 31, 1943
- Quota Period 3: April 1, 1943 to June 30, 1943
- Quota Period 4: July 1, 1943 to September 30, 1943

Deliveries to civilians during the 1942-43 quota periods were limited to the following percentages of such deliveries made in the corresponding period of 1941: beef, 80 percent; pork, 75 percent; lamb and mutton, 95 percent; and veal, 100 percent. These percentages were later changed.

The quota limitations were applicable only to slaughterers defined as "quota" slaughterers, namely, those who produce more than 500,000 pounds of meat in a quarter of a year, or those who in the first 9 months of 1942 slaughtered more than 1,500,000 pounds. Slaughterers producing less than this quantity, were designated as "non-quota" slaughterers and were limited in their civilian deliveries to the amounts of their 1941 deliveries. Practically all non-quota slaughterers do not have Federal inspection.

One provision of the order permitted slaughterers to deliver up to 10 percent more than their civilian quota of meat, except beef, but required them to charge the excess amount against their next quarter's quota. Also, if a slaughterer didn't use up his complete allotment during a specified quota period, he was to be allowed during the next period to increase his deliveries to an amount not to exceed 10 percent of his quota allotment.

Quota slaughterers were required to fill out a special OPA registration form describing in detail the types and amounts of meat slaughtered. Non-quota slaughterers, although not required to register, were required to keep complete records of their kills by quota periods.

The order further provided that Federally inspected slaughterers were not permitted to include in their quotas quantities of cutter and canner grades of steer, heifer and cow beef representing more than 20 percent of their total deliveries. Non-inspected packers were similarly limited to 25 percent of their total deliveries.

A major purpose of the order was to control the flow of livestock through Federally inspected plants so that Government procurement agencies could obtain their urgently needed supplies of meats and meat products. Under the order it also was contemplated that the Government would stand ready to buy all meat offered by these Federally inspected plants.

Obviously, all meats did not come under the restriction order. Those affected are called "controlled meat", a term which refers to the dressed carcasses or cuts from cattle, calves, sheep, lambs and hogs. It also covers any processed or unprocessed edible part of the carcass, cut, or trimmings, regardless of how prepared or packaged.

Lard was not restricted, nor was offal, which includes such products as liver and hearts. Canned meat, sausage, scrapple, souse and similar products were not subject to quota restrictions but these products were affected because the meat used in their manufacture was subject to such restrictions. Also omitted were oils, rendering fats, raw leaf, casings and by-products not ordinarily used for human consumption, as well as skins from pork cuts when prepared for use in leather, glue or gelatin.

Maximum penalties for violation of the order included a year's imprisonment or \$10,000 fine, or both, and suspension of the right to deal in meat and any rationed products. Since quotas and deliveries were to be computed on the basis of conversion weight, it was necessary to adopt a uniform weight standard for carcasses, cuts, boned, cured and dried meat. The dressed weight of the chilled carcass, commonly used in the trade for this purpose, is also used in the order as the basic standard for all types of meat except pork. In the case of pork the dressed carcass contains, besides controlled meat, certain cutting fats which are normally rendered. Thus it was necessary to have a conversion factor in order to determine the weight of the controlled meat even in the hog carcass itself. This factor is .83. In other words, 17 percent of the carcass is presumed to contain cutting fats which do not form part of the controlled meat.

Conversion weight may therefore be defined as "the device used to convert controlled meat in its various forms back to a dressed carcass weight basis or, in the case of swine, dressed carcasses less cutting fats."

However, in the case of pork there are two methods used for determining the conversion weight. The method used for carcasses, cuts and the like is the same as for other types of controlled meats; but a different method is used for determining the conversion weight of hogs slaughtered during a base or quota period. Since many slaughterers did not keep records of the weight of the dressed carcasses of hogs, as they did for beef, veal, lamb, and mutton, a factor was needed to determine the conversion weight from live purchase weight, records of which are generally kept by slaughterers. This method of determining the conversion weight of the entire kill of hogs must be used under the order in all cases, even though a particular slaughterer may have a record of the dressed carcass weight.

To determine the conversion weight of the entire kill of hogs, four classes were established, varying according to their average live purchase weight. The slaughterer must first ascertain the average live purchase weight of the hogs slaughtered (less condemnations), and then consult the table for the appropriate conversion factor. The total live purchase weight of the hogs is then multiplied by the appropriate conversion factor and the product is the conversion weight.

The conversion table for hogs is as follows:

Average Live Weight Range	Conversion Factor
200 lbs and under	0.55
201-240 lbs.	0.57
241-300 lbs.	0.59
301 lbs. and over	0.61

If a slaughterer during a quota period killed 1,000 hogs having a total live purchase weight of 280,000 pounds, he determines the conversion weight as follows: First, he divides 280,000 pounds by 1,000 in order to determine the average live purchase weight per head, which in this case is 280 pounds. This falls into the group having a range of 241-300 pounds for which the conversion factor is .59.

The conversion factor should be applied to the total live purchase weight less the calculated live purchase weight of the condemned hogs.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE ORDER. Issued 10/15/42. Effective same date.

This corrected certain typographical errors in the original order.

AMENDMENT NO. 2. Issued 10/20/42. Effective same date.

This directed slaughterers to list their purchases of meat from other slaughterers during 1941 and to notify sellers of the purchases claimed. The amendment applied only to deliveries of more than 5,000 pounds,

AMENDMENT NO. 3. Issued 11/9/42. Effective 11/7/42.

Non-slaughtering plants such as canners and processors were permitted to receive meats for storage to be sold later to Government procurement agencies without charge against the quotas of the slaughterers who supplied this meat.

To simplify the procedure for validating sales to government and state agencies, the amendment made it unnecessary for slaughterers to obtain certification from U. S. Government agencies which held written contracts with slaughterers or processors.

AMENDMENT NO. 4. Issued 11/9/42. Effective as of 11/7/42.

In order to make available more beef for military and other Government purposes, OPA made another 10 percent deduction from the civilian beef quota for the period from October 1 to December 31, 1942. Slaughterers were required to cut their civilian deliveries of beef from 80 percent to 70 percent. OPA also

eliminated the provision for a 10 percent "overage" delivery. Non-quota slaughterers continued to be restricted to the actual amounts of their deliveries of each kind of meat in the corresponding quarter of 1941.

Slaughterers who already had exceeded the revised 70 percent quota for beef would not be considered in violation of the amendment if they kept within the earlier quota. But they were allowed to make no further deliveries of beef to civilians until January 1, 1943. The amount in excess of the 70 percent quota that they already had delivered would be deducted from their quotas for the next 3 month period.

In a separate OPA ruling, effective the same date as amendment no. 4, non-quota slaughterers whose deliveries of beef, pork, lamb, mutton, and veal to civilians were restricted to the quantities they delivered in the same quarter of 1941, were prevented from shifting their entire beef business to cutter and canner grades.

AMENDMENT NO. 5. Issued 11/19/42. Effective 11/25/42.

It provided for an extension of time for filing a registration statement, if good cause was shown and applied only to quota-slaughterers. In accordance with the original order, the registration statement concerning deliveries of such meat, was to be filed with OPA on or after December 13, 1942, unless an extension of time was permitted.

AMENDMENT NO. 6. Issued 12/7/42. Effective 12/12/42.

This required non-quota slaughterers who make exempt deliveries, to obtain certifications of delivery or other documentary proof, after December 12, 1942.

The amendment placed essentially the same requirements on quota operators as on the quota slaughterers, with regard to exempt deliveries to other slaughterers, the armed services, Lend-Lease and certain others, whom the OPA meat restriction order no. 1 exempted from the civilian quota plan. Heretofore the non-quota slaughterers were not required to document these deliveries, while the large slaughterers were.

Specifically, the amendment required the non-quota slaughterers making such exempt deliveries to obtain certifications of delivery in cases where there was no contract, and certifications referring to the contract, receipts or bills of lading and invoices in transactions where there was a contract.

Furthermore the amendment ruled that deliveries by non-quota slaughterers to other slaughterers could be made without restriction.

AMENDMENT NO. 7. Issued 12/7/42. Effective 12/12/42.

This provided that deliveries to military detachments being trained at colleges should not be deducted from civilian meat quotas. Exempt purchases were re-defined under the amendment to include Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey, War Shipping Administration, Maritime Commission, Panama Canal, Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, Office of Scientific Research and Development, Defense Supplies Corporation, and any Government agency delivering meat to any foreign country or territory or possession of the United States.

AMENDMENT NO. 8. Issued 12/17/42. Effective same date.

In order to provide the specific cuts of meat required by the armed forces, OPA amended the restriction order to release between 5 and 10 million pounds of cured and frozen beef cuts in exchange for a like amount deducted from the general civilian beef quota for the 3-month period ending December 31. This was only a "trade", and in no way affected the total amount of beef available for civilians, but was designed to enable the armed forces to obtain cuts more suitable for their needs. The cured and frozen meat, held in storage in Federally inspected plants under the Government procurement agencies, including dried beef, beef sausage material, and other cuts not suitable for military purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 9. Issued 12/18/42. Effective same date.

This amendment was designed to relieve local civilian meat shortage during the holidays by authorizing slaughterers to begin deliveries of their 1943 first quarter quotas on December 20—12 days ahead of the original date designated.

The amount of advance deliveries which any packer was permitted to make during the period between December 20-31 was limited to 10 percent of his quota for the next quarter.

Relief of the local shortage situations by allowing packers to start 1943 first quarter deliveries ahead of time was hoped for in two ways: First, to enable immediate resumption of operations by any packing plants that had been curtailed because their current quarter quotas were exhausted; second, to permit increased deliveries by those whose operations had been restricted because their current quarter quota were depleted. Slaughterers were limited in their 1943 first quarter civilian deliveries to the following percentages based on their civilian deliveries during the first quarter of 1941: beef, pork, veal, 70 percent each; lamb and mutton, 75 percent.

It was explained by OPA that although the percentage cuts on deliveries to civilians of veal, lamb and mutton were large, their production represented only about 10 percent of the total meat production, while beef represented about 40 percent, and pork, 50 percent.

To distribute the new reduced quotas equitably throughout the coming quarter, slaughterers were required, in effect, to allocate their civilian deliveries on a monthly, rather than a quarterly basis. This provision applied to both quota and non-quota slaughterers.

Thus, each packer's civilian meat quota for the second quota period was in effect divided as follows:

December 20-31, 1942	10 percent
January 1943	30 percent
February 1943	30 percent
March 1943	30 percent
<hr/>	
Total	100 percent

As originally issued, the meat restriction order simply set quotas for the final three months of 1942 and left to packers the matter of spreading deliveries evenly over the three-month period.

Many packers shipped heavily in the forepart of the quarter, some even exhausting their quotas in the 60 days or less. Thus many localities had excessive supplies -- in the first two months of the quarter, leaving little or no meat available for delivery to civilians during December. The situation was further aggravated by the difficulty some packers had in adjusting their operations downward in the face of falling prices, difficulties and by substantial shifts in population as the result of war plant operations.

By this date uniform "dollars and cents" ceiling prices had been established at wholesale levels for beef and pork and were momentarily expected for lamb, while the matter of geographical distribution of meat, especially as regards defense areas, was the subject of consultation between the Government and the packing industry.

The amendment also ruled that the so-called "overage" provisions in the original meat restriction order would expire on March 31 and that no "overage" could be charged against the third quarter period. The "overage" on beef was taken out of the order on November 9 when the quota for beef was cut from 80 percent to 70 percent.

AMENDMENT NO. 10. Issued 1/18/43. Effective 1/14/43.

This broadened the basis for quota-free deliveries in this way: it provided that any distributor who sold meat to any exempt purchaser could obtain from the purchaser a certificate showing delivery. The distributor must endorse the certificate and transfer to the person who replenishes his supply of meat. That person, in turn, must add his endorsement, until eventually the certificate, bearing the endorsement of all persons through whom it passes, reaches the slaughterer and serves as his basis for a quota-free delivery to the person who surrenders the certificate to him.

Reasons leading up to this amendment: OPA authorities realized that in usual trade practices, meat often travels through several channels in its journey from slaughterer to exempt purchaser. Examples are: meat customarily bought from jobbers by railroads for service on troop trains; meat bought locally from retailers by Coast Guard units, and meat bought from a local jobber by a university, to be served on contract to Navy personnel in training at the institution.

Because of a desire to obtain quota exemptions, some slaughterers had bypassed usual trade channels in getting meat to such exempt purchasers. Direct deliveries in certain instances had cut the jobber and retailer out of the picture. For these small operators this meant loss of important customers, and in some instances, virtual extinction as a successful business organization. The amendment was designed to improve this situation.

AMENDMENT NO. 11. Issued 1/18/43. Effective 1/23/43.

This revised OPA's restriction limiting meat deliveries by slaughterers so as to change a number of the so-called "weight conversion factors" listed for different cuts and most canned meats.

The factors involved were those by which slaughterers multiply the weights of different meat cuts delivered by them to purchasers or transferred to their own processing plants to determine what the cuts weighed before they were cut from the dressed carcass.

An example of a situation in which the conversion process must be applied is where a slaughterer delivers particular types of cuts to his own separately operated processing plant or to an outside processor for sausage-making, canning or similar processing. The weight of these cuts must be converted into dressed carcass weight since delivery quotas are based on carcass weights.

The changes made by the amendment did not require slaughterers to re-figure their deliveries made during the 1941 quota period since the new and revised weight conversion figures applied only to the computation of deliveries during the remaining three quarterly periods of the year.

These changes also provided that non-quota slaughterers would be required to use the modified conversion factors to calculate permissible deliveries during the last three quota periods.

One of the major purposes of Meat Restriction Order No. 1 was to provide a uniform weight standard based on the dressed weight of the chilled carcass. Thus it was necessary to adopt a device for arriving at weights of particular cuts of meat before they were cut from the carcass. The weights differ because after a cut is removed from the carcass it may be boned, trimmed, cured, smoked or treated in some other way which either increases or decreases its weight.

The needed device was supplied by providing each cut with a "conversion factor," a figure, which, when multiplied by the cut's actual weight, gives the approximate weight of the cut before it was removed from the dressed carcass.

Experience gained during the last three months of 1942, the first quota period, showed according to OPA that some of the conversion figures were inaccurate. Conversion factors also were needed for several additional cuts not included in the restriction order before. Experience also suggested that specific factors were needed for calculating the conversion weight of controlled meat contained in canned meats produced in large quantities for the armed forces and for Lend-Lease.

Most slaughterers were expected to benefit from the changes made by amendment 11, since for the most part their adjustments of conversion factors would result in an increase in the quantity of meats offered to exempt purchasers.

AMENDMENT NO. 12. Issued 1/27/43. Effective 2/2/43.

This removed the restrictions on the amount of controlled meat which Government-operated institutions, such as asylums, orphanages, prisons and hospitals could slaughter and serve to their patients or inmates.

Heretofore such institutions, operated by Federal, State or local governments, were allowed to buy controlled meats outside the limitations set on civilian quotas in the Meat Restriction Order, but were limited in the use of meat obtained from the slaughter of their own animals to the amount they slaughtered for their own use during the corresponding base period. The restriction, if allowed to remain in effect, might have required the institutions — such as those operating prison farms — to buy meat on the market even though they might have had an adequate supply of livestock on hand.

